

Commercial Building (David Hayman and
Company)
625 Indiana Avenue, N.W.
Washington
District of Columbia

HABS No. DC-230

HABS
DC
WASH
127-

PHOTOGRAPHS

Written Historical and Descriptive Data

Historic American Buildings Survey
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
National Park Service
801 19th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

1. STATE District of Columbia
COUNTY
TOWN Washington VICINITY
STREET NO. 625 Indiana Avenue, N.W.

ORIGINAL OWNER
ORIGINAL USE
PRESENT OWNER
PRESENT USE Restaurant equipment store
WALL CONSTRUCTION Brick and cast iron
NO. OF STORIES Three

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
INVENTORY

2. NAME Commercial Building (David Hayman
and Company)

DATE OR PERIOD Probably between 1850 & 1860
STYLE
ARCHITECT
BUILDER

3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

HABS, DC, WASH, 187-

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION

OPEN TO PUBLIC No

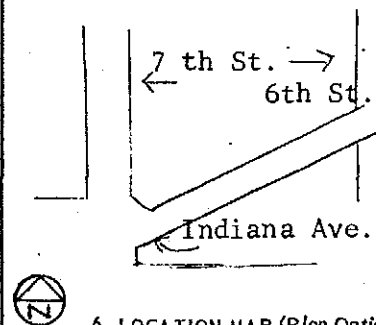
This small pre-Civil War store building, with a frontage of 23'-4", has a brick and cast-iron facade of attractive character, now in deteriorating condition. The first story has two intermediate cast-iron piers between corner piers of brick. These are original but the glazing is modern. Above this are brick corner pilasters, paneled on the face, with cast-iron capitals of modified Corinthianesque character, whose acanthus leaves have an S-curved profile of pronounced curvature. On the left corner only a half pilaster remains.

There are three windows at the second story, the central one round-arched. It is glazed with four-light casements and transom. The others are segmental arched, with three-light casements and transom. The openings have ornamental cast-iron hood moulds and wood sills.

At the third story the windows are segmental arched and are provided with similar hood moulds. At the top is a bracketed cast-iron cornice. The roof is flat.

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered Probably Interior

Exterior Poor to fair



6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

7. PHOTOGRAPH

8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages)
INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.

9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER

Harley J. McKee
Professor Emeritus of Architecture
Syracuse University
August 6, 1969

DATE OF RECORD

Addendum

625 Indiana Avenue, NW (Commercial Building)

(Hayman, David and Company)

Washington

District of Columbia

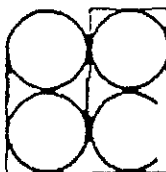
HABS No. DC-230

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WASH,
187-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, DC 20013-7127



PENNSYLVANIA
AVENUE
DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION

425 13TH STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20004

GENERAL CONSULTANTS

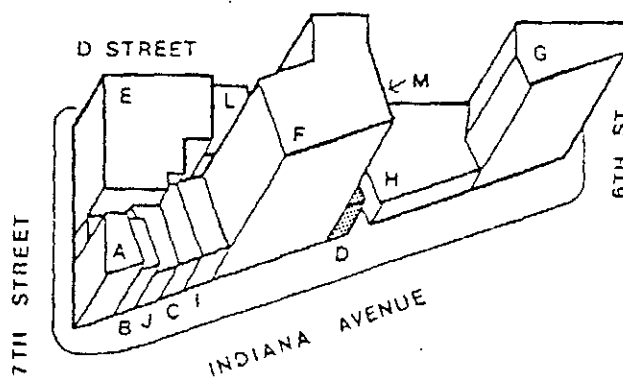
ANDERSON NOTTER/MARIANI
GENERAL PRESERVATION & CONSERVATION CONSULTANT
DEVROUX & PURNELL
ASSOCIATE ARCHITECTS
DAVID MCLAREN HART & ASSOCIATES
PRESERVATION & CONSERVATION CONSULTANT
MONK DUNSTONE ASSOCIATES
COST ESTIMATING CONSULTANT

HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

BUILDING DOCUMENTATION

HABS
DC,
WASH.,
187-

Commercial Building
625 Indiana Avenue, N.W.
Lot 13



This documentation was produced for mitigation purposes by the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation. Additional documentation exists for Square 458, within which this structure stands. For photographs, historical, and descriptive data on Square 458, see HABS No. DC-618.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Dating from the Civil War period, 625 Indiana Avenue is an example of mid-Nineteenth Century commercial Renaissance Revival building. It is situated on Lot 3, Square 458. Once part of a row of four identical buildings, 625 Indiana Avenue is now isolated by a massive twelve story modern commercial structure to the west and an empty lot. The building consists of three stories plus a basement, and has a metal roof sloping towards the north of the building.

The structure consists of brick bearing walls resting on brick foundations. Wooden joists span the bearing walls in the east-west direction and rest on a wooden beam which is perpendicular to the front and rear facades. This beam is supported by non-corresponding columns on each floor. In spite of it's being vacant since 1970, the building remains structurally sound, although moisture penetration has damaged the third floor under the roof access.

The front elevation presents a symmetrical organization of three stories and three bays having a commercial front at sidewalk level.

The interior varies slightly with each floor, but is basically open in plan on the second and third levels, and partitioned on the basement and first floors. A continuous stair runs from front to back along the east wall. An elevator shaft is situated in the southeast corner of the building.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

This building is a fine example of mid-Nineteenth Century commercial architecture. 625 Indiana Avenue is the last of four identical buildings, and therefore the original context of the building has been irreparably altered. Its stylistic isolation is emphasized by the large volume of the adjacent office building. Nonetheless, its strong character enriches the streetscape, and elevates the architectural character of the entire surrounding quarter.

SIGNIFICANT FEATURES

Facade: The south elevation presents a symmetrical organization of three stories and three bays, with a storefront at the entry level. This facade is constructed of brick laid in running bond. Brick quoins at ground level and two-story brick paneled pilasters with Corinthian capitals define the edges of the building. The quoins and pilaster on the west side were cut in half when its neighbor was razed.

On the ground floor, much of the original wooden storefront is still in place (but has been obscured by plywood protection boards). The storefront's glazing has been removed since the building was closed in 1970.

On the second story, the central window is round-arched. There are wooden casement sash with 4 lights and quarter round transoms above each casement. The flanking windows have segmental arches and three light casements with two light transoms. The windows are separated by brick panels. A continuous ornamental hood of either cast or carved stone connects the three windows. On each of the two flanking windows the keystone is expressed as a very ornate cartouche supported laterally by two rocailles. The arcaded hood rests on consoles at each end, which in turn are supported by a corbel block.

On the third floor, the three windows have very flat segmental arches. The sash are wood casement with three lights. Each window is topped by an ornamental hood with scrolled keystones. On each end of the hood is supported by a corbel block in the form of a bud. This motif recurs as a single support at each end of the window sill.

A metal entablature tops the building's facade. Seven brackets project from the frieze to support the cornice. Each has a drop panel design on its curved surface and is underscored by two guttae. Every other bracket is topped by an additional smaller bracket at cornice level. Both the lower and the upper segments of the east bracket are wider than the rest. This bracket is embellished by additional projecting decorative elements. Since 625 Indiana Avenue was the end facade of a row, this bracket provided a stronger termination to the cornice of all four buildings. In the center of the cornice is a panel bearing "625".

North and East Elevation: The east elevation is brick laid in a running bond. Two signs that were painted directly on the wall are visible beneath deteriorating stucco. The north elevation, also of brick in running bond, contains a wooden door, several simple windows and star anchor bolts. Large window openings flank the first story door. The second floor has three four-over-four double-hung windows. The third floor has three square two-over-two light double-hung windows.



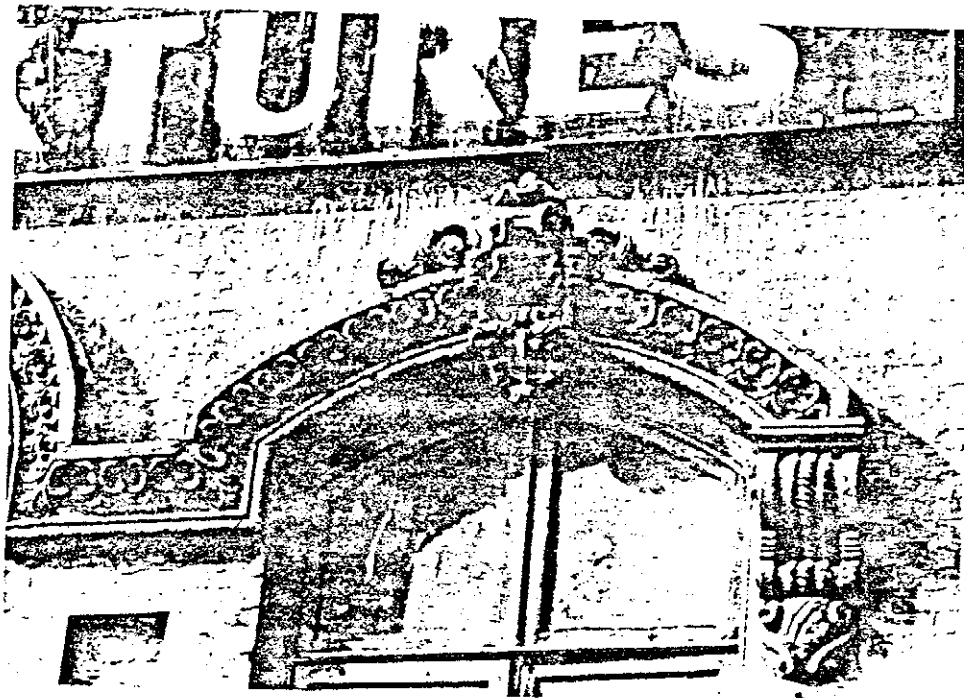
Indiana Avenue Facade



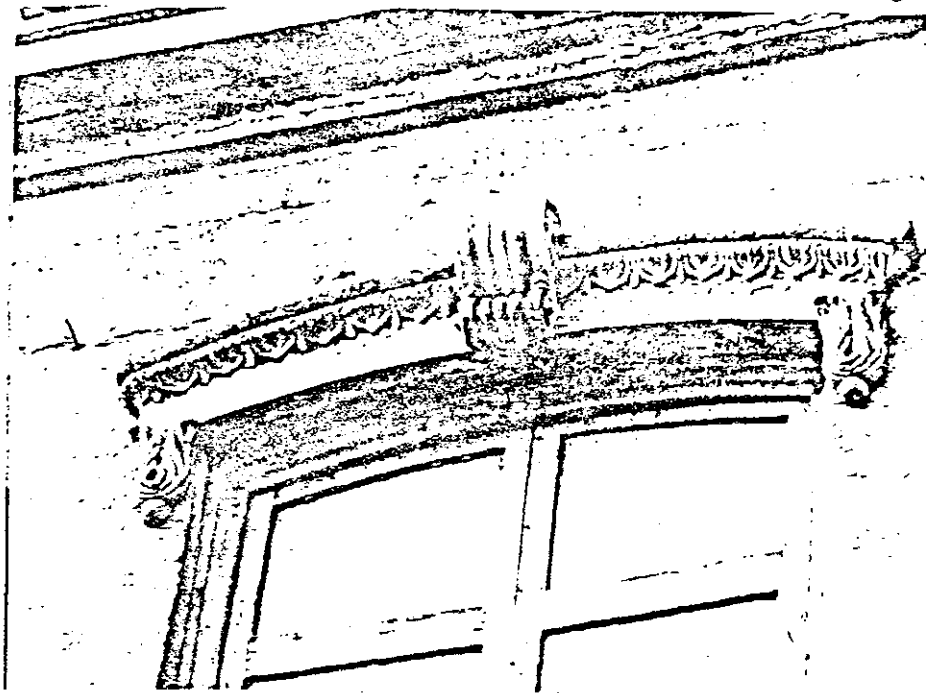
Main Facade: View of Storefront



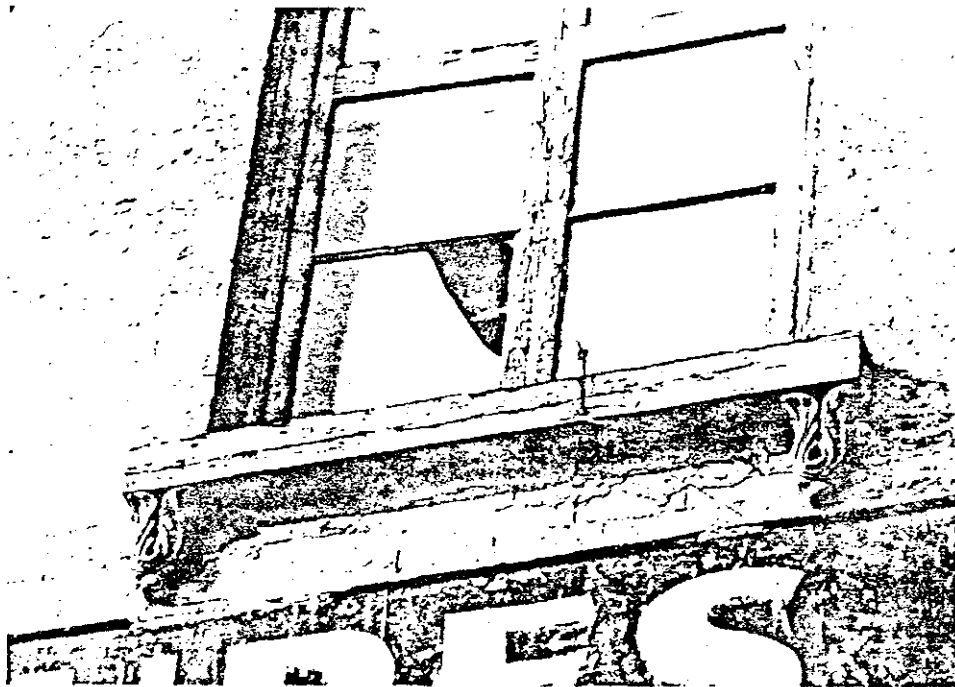
Facade View of Arcaded Hoods over Second Floor Windows



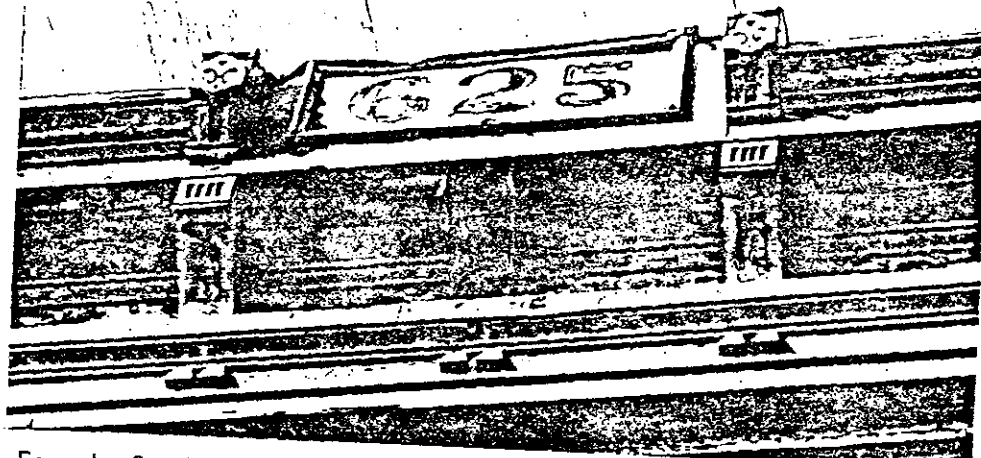
Facade, Second Floor: Detail of Hood Keystone
on Side Windows



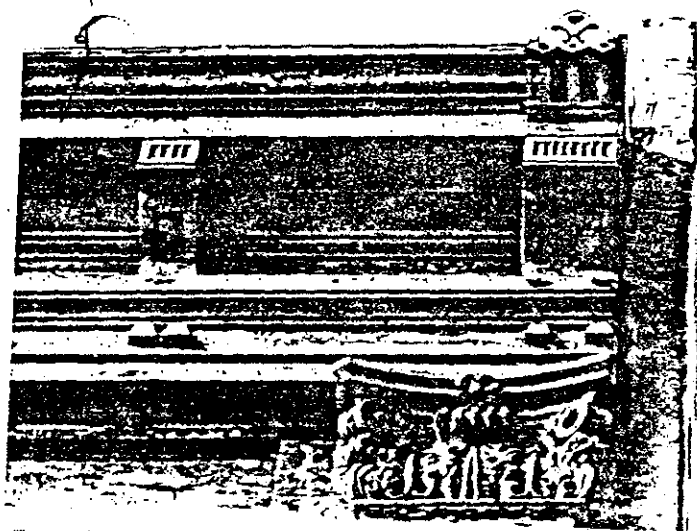
Facade: Hood Over Third-Floor Windows



Facade: Third Floor Window Sill



Facade Center - Detail of Roof Entablature



Facade Detail at East End of Roof Entablature

Lot 3 (Sublot 13)
625 Louisiana Avenue

1864.....Walter Sturgis, a produce dealer, was listed in the City Directories under 625 Louisiana Avenue.

1865

to

1876.....C.T. Bowen, a painter, was listed under 625 Louisiana Avenue in the City Directories.

1872/73...Mary 8. Hill was assessed \$4,892.00 for the subdivision 13 of Lot 3.

1877

to

1882.....Harry W. Hall, a grocer, occupied 625 Louisiana Avenue, according to the City Directories.

1878/79...Subdivision 13 was assessed to John M. McCalla and Helen H. McCalla at \$4,448.00.

1883

to

1903.....The City Directory listed Thomas J. Brashears, a printer, as the tenant.

1883/84...John and Helen McCalla's assessment remained the same.

1892

to

1899.....Frank Miller operated an eating house at 625 Louisiana Avenue, according to the City Directory.

1899/

1900.....Helen McCalla was assessed \$4,625.00 for the ground and \$3,500.00 for the improvements.

1922.....On December 15th, a permit was issued to Snyder & Miller which extended authority to make alterations in the interior of the building. The work was to be carried out by the contractural firm of Charles A. Racurre, Sr. (Permit #566).

1922

to

1937.....The Stern Company, a store fixture company, was listed as the tenant of the building, according to the City Directories.

1931.....Louisiana Avenue was renamed Indiana Avenue.

1940

to

1967.....David Hayman continued to operate the store fixture business at 625
Indiana Avenue.

1970

to

1981.....The building was vacated in 1970, and has not been maintained actively
since.

SOURCES

Baist Real Estate Atlas

Bastert and Enthoffer Plat Maps

Boyd's City Directories

District of Columbia Building Permits

District of Columbia General Assessment Records

District of Columbia Recorder of Deeds

District of Columbia Surveyor's Office Records

District of Columbia Tax Records

Hopkins Real Estate Atlas

Polk's City Directories

Property Map for Downtown Urban Renewal Area for District of Columbia Redevelopment
Land Agency

Sanborn Insurance Map